

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUATEM 01381 112041Z

63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SY-10 USSS-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /107 W

----- 061599

O P 111947Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2406

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1381

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NU, GT

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION FRONT STATEMENTS REGARDING SOMOZA ROLE IN
ELECTORAL FRAUD

REF: MANAGUA 906

1. MARCH 9 IMPACTO (SENSATIONALIST NEWSPAPER WITH SMALL READERSHIP) QUOTED RIOS MONTT IN UNDATED ARTICLE AS SAYING THAT "PESONS IN PAY OF GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA ARE IN GUATEMALA TO ASSASSINATE ME BECAUSE I WOULD NOT TALK WITH HIM." RIOS REPORTEDLY ALLEGED THAT SOMOZA HAD 30 MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT IN GUATEMALA THAT HE WISHED TO PROTECT. RIOS REPORTEDLY ALSO SAID HE HAD GOOD INFORMATION THAT SOMOZA VISITED GUATEMALA (DATE UNSPECIFIED) TO CONTRIBUTE TO GOVERNMENT COALITION CAMPAIGN FUND AND TO LEAVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSASSINS. NO OTHER NEWSPAPER CARRIED THIS STORY.

2. GUATEMALAN PRESS HAS ALSO CARRIED FOLLOWING REPORTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GUATEM 01381 112041Z

OF STATMENTS BY OPPOSITION FRONT LEADERS

ALLEGING SOMOZA INVOLVEMENT IN GOG'S ELECTORAL FRAUD. ACCORDING TO EL IMPARCIAL (GENERALLY RELIABLE) OF MARCH 7, "NATIONAL OPPOSITION FRONT SOURCES COMMENTED THAT GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA, STRONGMAN OF NICARAGUA, WAS IN GUATEMALA DURING ELECTIONS, AND COULD WELL HAVE INFLUENCED THE FRAUD." IMPACTO CARRIED GERMAN NEWS AGENCY (DPA) REPORT SIGNED BY GUATEMALAN JULIO CESAR ANGUESTO ON MARCH 8. REPORT QUOTED MANEUL COLOM ARGUETA, ONE OF OPPOSITION FRONT'S CHIEF LEADERS, AS SAYING, "SOMOZA, THE 'KING OF CENTRAL AMERICA,' AND TEN OTHER GUATEMALAN AND FOREIGN MILLIONAIRES MET THE DAY BEFORE THE ELECTIONS IN GUATEMALA TO DECIDE HOW TO MANAGE THEM. IT IS SAD THAT SOMOZA IS DECIDING THE DESTINY OF GUATEMALA."

3. COMMENT: OPPOSITION FRONT STATEMENTS REGARDING SOMOZA APPEAR DESIGNED TO APPEAL TO ANTI-SOMOZA SENTIMENTS AMONG GUATEMALANS. MANY GUATEMALANS BELIEVE THAT ARANA, DURING HIS SOJOURN IN MANAGUA AS AMBASSADOR (1968-69) AND DURING NUMEROUS VISITS WITH SOMOZA SINCE THAT TIME, HAS BEEN COUNSELLED BY THE NICARAGUAN LEADER TO ESTABLISH DICTATORSHIP IN GUATEMALA. RIOS' AND COLOM'S ALLEGATIONS PROBABLY DESIGNED SPARK FEARS AMONG GUATEMALANS AND ENCOURAGE POPULAR RESISTANCE TO GOG FRAUD. THEY SEEM TO HAVE HAD LITTLE IMPACT. END COMMENT. MELOY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, COALITION GOVERNMENT, ELECTION FRAUD, OPPOSITION PARTIES, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GUATEM01381
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740354/aaaabyfc.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MANAGUA 906
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPPOSITION FRONT STATEMENTS REGARDING SOMOZA ROLE IN ELECTORAL FRAUD
TAGS: PFOR, NU, GT, (SOMOZA DEBAYLE, ANASTASIO), (RIOS MONTT, EFRAIN)
To: MANAGUA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005